	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
Notice of Allowability	09/428,284		HOLMES ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Timothy M. Harbeck		3692	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--
All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *the Appeal Brief filed 10/25/2006*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-20,22,24-33,35-50,52-54 and 56*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:

        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the

            International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of

        Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-20, 22, 24-33, 35-50, 52-54 and 56 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art

fails to suggest, teach, or disclose each and every limitation of the independent claims.

Independent Claim 1 of the present invention reads as follows

In a computer-implemented system for managing financial transactions, a
method for applying an exchange rate to convert a transaction from a first currency to a
second currency, comprising:

*receiving, by a computer system, a financial transaction, including a date
and a transaction amount in the first currency;*

*accessing, by the computer system, an electronically stored plurality of
historical exchange rates for the first currency with respect to the second currency, each
historical exchange rate corresponding to a time period;*

*if the date of the received financial transaction corresponds to a time period
of one of the historical exchange rates, automatically selecting, by the computer
system, the historical exchange rate;*

*if the date of the received financial transaction does not correspond to a
time period of one of the historical exchange rates, automatically selecting, by the
computer system, a historical exchange rate having a most recent time period among
available historical exchange rates having time periods prior to the date of the received
financial transaction;*

*automatically applying, by the computer system, the selected historical
exchange rate to the received financial transaction, to derive a converted transaction
amount in the second currency; and*

*performing at least one of the steps of: storing the converted transaction
amount in a storage medium; and outputting the converted transaction amount.*

The closest prior art of record is Nemzow (US 2001/0011241 A1). Nemzow

discloses a method and apparatus for localizing currency valuation independent of the

original and objective currencies. The system takes as input the starting currency, a target currency and transactions rules. The system maintains a database of currency rates, currency histories, conversion rules and currency representation data. Optimization and backtracking techniques are used to deal with partial rate information and to find optimal valuations involving a chain of currency translations. In addition conversion rules can be customized in response to the user inputs and the transaction rules, including matching the user inputs against user specified conversion rule, a table of currency conversion rates or a data base with currency conversion tables.

However, Nemzow does not explicitly disclose or teach a technique for handling the conditions addressed by the method claimed herein. Specifically, there is no discussion in Nemzow of selecting a historical exchange rate having a most recent time period among available historical exchange rates having time periods prior to the date of the received financial transaction.

With respect to the conversion rules, Nemzow discusses customizing conversion rules in response to user inputs and transaction rules, including matching user inputs against conversion rules, currency conversion rate tables, or a currency conversion rate database. Methods for maintaining the database are discussed. Customization of conversion rules are also discussed, including reconciling currency price differences, handling triangulation discrepancies, computing a balance sheet, or systematic work-in-progress contra-asset category for rounding errors. However, these concepts do not explicitly teach or suggest the specific conditions recited in the independent claims, as to whether the date of a financial transaction corresponds to a time period of a historical

exchange rate. Furthermore, none of these concepts are directed to selecting and

applying an exchange rate associated with a time period that precedes a transaction

date.

While Nemzow discloses a broad based currency translation system with user

specified rules, the very specific conditions of;

*if the date of the received financial transaction corresponds to a time period of
one of the historical exchange rates, automatically selecting, by the computer system,
the historical exchange rate;*

*if the date of the received financial transaction does not correspond to a time
period of one of the historical exchange rates, automatically selecting, by the computer
system, a historical exchange rate having a most recent time period among available
historical exchange rates having time periods prior to the date of the received financial
transaction;*

With both these conditions necessarily present in the current invention, it appears

that the specific limitations of the claims are allowable over Newzow.

Kokkida (US PAT 6,065,673) discloses a method and apparatus for performing

currency conversions. A value in a first currency is calculated in terms of a desired

second currency by entering the value of the first currency into a controller of a receiver,

such as a mobile telephone or other similar device. Furthermore, one object of the

present invention is to provide means of which a user of a mobile telephone can be

provided with information of latest exchange rates. However, Kokkida does not disclose

or suggest the aforementioned steps of the present invention, namely

*if the date of the received financial transaction corresponds to a time period of
one of the historical exchange rates, automatically selecting, by the computer system,
the historical exchange rate;*

*if the date of the received financial transaction does not correspond to a time
period of one of the historical exchange rates, automatically selecting, by the computer
system, a historical exchange rate having a most recent time period among available
historical exchange rates having time periods prior to the date of the received financial
transaction;*

Specifically, while Kokkida discloses converting currencies in real time with
current exchange rates, there is not mention of utilizing historical exchange rates, nor
any mention of how to deal with partial and/or missing information. With both these
conditions necessarily present in the current invention, it appears that the specific
limitations of the claims are allowable over Kokkida.

Non Patent Literature made of record is Comprehensive Multi-Currency Portfolio
Management [online]. May 8, 1999.)Captools Company [retrieved on 2003-02-21]. 2
Pages.). This article discloses that multi-national and multi-currency investing has long
been a common practice outside the United States and that recently investors in the
United States have taken notice. The Captools Company allows investors to track
investment assets that are denominated in more than one currency, including currency
revaluations, options to enter information in multiple currencies, and storage of data in
both a unique currency and a standard currency for that portfolio. However the article
does not make up for the deficiencies of the previously stated prior art with regards to
the conditional limitations of the present invention with regard to historical exchange
rates and the selection of a most recent one when information is missing.

Because the prior art does not explicitly teach, disclose or suggest each and
every limitation of the independent claim, it is submitted that the present invention is
allowable over the prior art. While the reasons for allowance were discussed only with

regard to independent claim 1, the remaining independent claims all recite at least the aforementioned allowable limitations and are therefore allowable over the prior art by the same rationale.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Timothy M. Harbeck whose telephone number is 571-272-8123. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Chilcot can be reached on 571-272-6777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

RICHARD E. CHILCOT, JR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER